



Idaho Master Naturalists – Pend Oreille Chapter

PO Box 1062, Sandpoint ID 83864

e-mail: imn.sandpoint@gmail.com

General Meeting Minutes October 20, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 9:15am by President Gail

Members present: Gail, Dave, Phil, Jon, Valle, Cheryl, Clem, Tom Whelan, and Lori

Members absent: Derek, Connie, Cathy, Rob, Ann, Denise, Matt, Jan, Pete

Secretary Report: Minutes of September 15, 2011 were accepted and approved, they will be posted on our MN Chapter website.

Treasurer Report: Jan is absent. There is \$975 in bank checking account. A full accounting will be done as soon as possible. The board asked Vice President to assist with Treasurer duties and act as backup as needed.

Motion was made to add the Vice President as authorized signatory for the bank account to allow for 2 signatures on checks if one authorized member is not available. (currently only the Treasurer and President have signature authority).

After the meeting, the President, Vice President, and Secretary went to Mt. West Bank to add the authorized signature, order checks, and cancel the debit card.

Old Business:

- Updates to the Chapter Facebook page (link on MN website) are needed for any volunteer projects: <https://fishandgame.idaho.gov/sites/Wildlife/IDMasterNaturalist/northIdaho/default.aspx>
- Our year for volunteer hours begins on the day of the first class and continues for 12 months. Please count all training, advanced training, and volunteer hours (including meeting and committee meeting attendance). All these hours must be entered and are very important! Official agreements with other organizations will pave the way to accept all hours worked for them to count for MN hours. Our guidelines accept education, stewardship, and citizen science.
- A Motion was made, 2nd, and passed to accept all hours worked for partnership organizations unconditionally – other hours with other organizations as approved by the Board. Members should bring any agreements with organizations to meetings to be formalized.
- Clem will complete comparison of drafted by-laws with the State Volunteer Handbook & Policy Guidelines. All members are requested to read and be familiar with this Handbook. This will be the first agenda item next meeting.
- State Meeting report – tabled until Derek returns
- Cheryl presented a Proposal to Adopt the Waterlife Discovery Center (see attached). A real commitment from all members is needed to make this a Chapter Project. After much favorable discussion, a Motion to adopt the WDC as our Chapter Project was made, 2nd and passed. Cheryl will continue to lead and work on the details. Good Work!
- Brochure for our Chapter was looked at and will be updated with our address, web, new pictures. Gail will send out to all members before our next meeting and it will be put on the agenda for discussion. Sara will print free copies once we have finalized. Inserts with information about our next class will also be created and printed for distribution.
- The Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant was submitted and we are awaiting notification of status.

New Business:

- Our new e-mail address: imn.sandpoint@gmail.com will be used for incoming messages from outside contacts with questions or who are interested in training. It will be monitored by the Chapter Board.
- Tom Herron, the Program Manager from Dept of Environmental Quality dropped into the meeting to introduce himself and express support for the Chapter. He would like to partner with the Chapter and offer some volunteer opportunities through the local Watershed Advisory Groups. Brochures and educational materials are available from DEQ for distribution at WDC. Thomas.herron@deq.idaho.gov 208-666-4631 (Faye Beller, office manager)
- Discussion of goals and focus of the Chapter was cut short and it was decided the Board will meet separately to put together a list of goals and priorities to be presented to all members at next meeting.
- The next meeting will be on Thursday November 17, 2011 9:00am at the Waterlife Discovery Center.

Committee Issues/Reports:

Communication: Chair – Valle

- Valle has articles formerly published in the Bee that she will update and make available for the State newsletter, our web page and facebook page.
- Reminder - Please report to Connie and Lori all projects that have already been worked on this year by our members to be listed on our website. Please include sponsors.

Volunteer Services (Science/Education): Chair - Dave

- Dave has been working on a project with Christine Boyd looking for trees and posts that have been rubbed by grizzly bears in order to modify the rubs with wire and collect hair for DNA analysis. There is a need for long term monitoring, training is available (counts as advanced training).
- List of current opportunities will be updated and sent to members. Action: please rank your top four picks and respond to Dave before next month meeting for discussion.

Training/Field trips: Chair - Jon

- Committee will study training available for classes, extended training, and enrichment. Current thinking is for 1 day (8 hours) per week, perhaps beginning on a Friday evening continuing with a Saturday retreat (Priest River Research cabins?). This session would cover the orientation portions of the training. Jon will check on cost and availability.
- Feedback was received from a few members and will be incorporated into planning for the next MN Training Syllabus.
- Jon suggests we need to have on hand for future outreach opportunities both a banner and a large tabletop tri-fold display. (An invitation to present at the Family Owned Forest Conference in Moscow, ID, in March of 2012 may be forthcoming).
- Volunteers are needed for the Forestry contest held in May. Our MN Chapter may also be interested in sponsoring an award or prize for one of the contests. Jon will research.
- Should the Chapter offer a junior or future MN program to teens?

Actions:

- Report current/past projects to Connie/Lori, send pictures for web pages.
- Read and be ready to discuss the State Volunteer Handbook & Policy Guidelines and additional Chapter By-laws.
- Send your top 4 picks for volunteer opportunities to Dave.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted, Lori Getts, Secretary